

AUGUST 27th

2015

To whom it may concern,

Hello my name is Tiki, I'm writing this letter in order to give a small insite of my life. This last year, 2014 & 2015, I was a junior attending David Douglas High School. Everything school related was going well, until around late September early October when my mother moved her boyfriend from Chicago, whom she just met, into our house. He was kind at first, but after a while his true colors started to show and his attitude changed a lot. This caused lots of tension in the house which became an issue between my mother and I. Everyday there would be some type of argument between any two of the three of us.

By the time late March came, the environment at home and the community I was involved in was so unsupportive and unhealthy that I had to leave. I left my house and stayed with a variety of friends who allowed me to sleep on their couch or floor. Everyday at school I had to ask around and find out where it was that I would be eating and sleeping that night. Since I did not have a consistant, stable living place, homework and study time became a huge struggle which lead to academic decline. In the time that I was bouncing around from house to house, I started to do things and become someone

THAT DIDN'T SHOW MY TRUE CHARACTER. I DIDN'T LIKE THE ENVIRONMENT THAT I WAS LIVING IN OR THE PERSON I WAS BECOMING, I KNEW THAT THE ONLY WAY TO CHANGE AND BECOME THE PERSON I WANTED TO BE AND ACHIEVE THE GOALS THAT I HAVE SET FOR MYSELF WAS TO REACH OUT AND GET HELP. I REACHED OUT TO MY YOUTH GROUP LEADER AND TOLD HIM WHAT WAS GOING ON AND THAT I NEEDED TO GET OUT TO CAMP TO RECONNECT WITH GOD AND ALL OF THE AMAZING PEOPLE WHO ATTENDED CAMP AS CAMPERS OR SUMMER STAFF. DURING THE MONTH THAT I WAS AT CAMP, I FOUND A MENTOR THAT I COULD OPEN UP TO AND RECEIVE ADVICE FROM. AT THE END OF THIS MONTH AFTER RECEIVING SO MUCH HELP AND ADVICE FROM THE POSITIVE COMMUNITY AROUND ME, I DECIDED THAT MOVING TO HILLSBORO AND STAYING WITH THE STEWART FAMILY WOULD BE THE BEST FRESH START FOR ME. THE STEWARTS ARE A GREAT FAMILY AND ARE WILLING TO HELP ME AND PUSH ME TO DO THE BEST I CAN THIS YEAR IN ORDER TO GRADUATE ON TIME. I THINK HAVING ALL THE SUPPORT AND HELP FROM THEM AND THE COMMUNITY OF FRIENDS THAT I HAVE OUT HERE, THAT I MET AT CAMP, WILL HELP ME A LOT AND MOTIVATE ME TO DO WELL. SPORTS SUCH AS FOOTBALL AND WRESTLING WILL ALSO MOTIVATE ME TO DO WELL AND

STAY ON TOP OF THINGS ACADEMICALLY BECAUSE IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE YOU'VE GOT TO BE PASSING ALL YOUR CLASSES OR MAINTAIN A 2.0 GPA OR HIGHER. THIS YEAR I PLAN ON CATCHING UP ON CREDITS AND CLASSES THAT I'VE MISSED OR AM BEHIND ON.

I PLAN ON GETTING EXTRA HELP WHETHER IT BE FROM PEERS, TEACHERS, COACHES OR THE STEWARTS.

I PLAN ON TAKING TIME OUT OF EACH DAY TO STUDY AND COMPLETE ANY HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS THAT WERE ASSIGNED THE PREVIOUS DAY OR THE DAY OF.

I PLAN TO MAKE IT TO SCHOOL AND CLASS EVERYDAY ON TIME IN ORDER TO STAY ON TOP OF THINGS AND NOT FALL BEHIND.

I PLAN TO COMPLETE 100% OF ASSIGNMENTS AS WELL AS TURNING THEM IN ON TIME. I PLAN TO WORK MY HARDEST AND TRY MY BEST AND GIVE IT MY 100% EACH AND EVERYDAY.

I PLAN TO MAINTAIN A 3.0 GPA ALL YEAR LONG!

I PLAN TO WORK HARD AND GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL ON TIME!

THANK YOU READER(S) FOR TAKING THE TIME TO READ MY LETTER, I HOPE AND PRAY THAT YOU THOUGHTFULLY COME TO A DECISION ON WHAT YOU THINK IS AND HEALTHY FOR ME TO DO, WHETHER IT BE PLAYING SPORTS OR NOT. THANKS AGAIN FOR YOUR TIME! - SINCERELY, MCCULLUM